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## Book Reviews

*Ancient Italy: Historical and Geographical Investigations in Central Italy, Magna Graecia, Sicily, and Sardinia.* By ETTORE PAIS; translated from the Italian by C. DENSMORE CURTIS. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press; London: T. Fisher Unwin, 1908. Pp. xiv+441, with 11 Figures and xi Plates. \$5.

It is good to see a book like this published in America. In our recent extraordinary development of history teaching, ancient history has received a step-child's treatment, but the appearance of this book indicates a growing sense of its value and a belief in a market for scientific work in this field. For the book, apart from its name, is strictly scientific. The name *Ancient Italy* suggests a systematic account of the peninsula as a whole. The book in fact consists of twenty-six distinct papers, varying from four to seventy pages in length, published in Italian at various times in the proceedings of learned societies or in privately printed pamphlets, and not intended for general circulation. It is offered, says the author, "to the English-speaking public, both because it presents practically unpublished material, and because of the close connection between the various subjects of which it treats, since all were suggested by my researches in preparing my *History of Magna Graecia and Sicily* and my *History of Rome*." Mr. Curtis' translation is scholarly throughout. He follows closely "the order of presentation of the original material," but his English is readable and only occasionally does the Italian idiom unpleasantly betray itself.

Most of the papers are concerned with subjects connected with the history and geography of the Greek colonies in Italy and Sicily. Besides these, one attempts to locate the Ausonians and to say where they came from. Another does the same thing for the Daunians and Umbrians in Campania. One treats of the early history of Pisa. One discusses an error of Appian concerning the *Bellum Perusinum*. One, already printed in English in the *American Journal of Archaeology* (IX.1-10), deals with the Temple of the Sirens near Sorrento. Another treats the worship of Sicilian Athena in Campania and argues for its origin from Syracuse and its connection with the temple of Athena on the Punta della Campanella near Sorrento. One discusses two Greek inscriptions found in Sardinia. The last attempts to fix the time and place at which Strabo wrote his historical geography. Much the most valuable of the papers, however are the twentieth "Siceliot Elements in the Earliest History of Rome" and the twenty-first "Italiot, Samnite, and Campanian Elements in the Earliest History of Rome." Professor Pais believes that the Greek influence on early Rome exercised from Magna Graecia was much greater than has been generally supposed. The cult of Ceres, for example, came from Sicily; the story of the first

secession of the plebs to the Mons Sacer came from Syracuse; the institution of the tribunes of the plebeian aediles is an imitation of Syracusan arrangements. Even the name "Italia" was adopted by the Greeks of lower Italy and extended by the Romans to the whole peninsula. Indeed, "we are now in a position to assert that, contrary to the statements of several ancient writers, the Roman people did not develop their own military, administrative, and juridical organizations. As a matter of fact they took them over by slow degrees from the various peoples with which they came in contact, and which had preceded them on the road toward civilization. No one is now ignorant of the fact that even that great body of civil law for which we are so greatly indebted to the Roman people represents a series of stratifications which in the final analysis lead us to those great oriental monarchies where history had its origin."

In general it must be admitted that Professor Pais' style as seen in this volume is not attractive. The individual sentences are clear enough, but the arrangement of his matter is not easy to follow and paragraphs summarizing his results he does not seem to have thought of. But this is not to minimize the scientific value of Professor Pais' work. On the contrary it is of high importance. He is a man of immense learning and of first-rate ability, a worthy pupil of Mommsen, one of the foremost scholars and authors of an Italy that, far from dying, produces work that puts ours in America to the blush. If one say that the papers in *Ancient Italy* do not compare in style with the work of Lanciani and Ferrero the author would reply with justice that they are not meant to, but are intended for a different class of readers.

*Ancient Italy* as a book is decidedly handsome. It is excellently printed and the illustrations are good. Of the eleven figures ten represent coins, one is a map. The eleven plates are all photographic half-tones: scenery, architecture, sculpture, inscriptions. The most notable illustration is that of an archaic relief from S. Mauro in Sardinia, representing two sphinxes sitting back to back. This relief, first published in Professor Pais' paper, the author thinks "may with almost absolute certainty be placed in the first decades of the sixth century B. C. It was certainly of architectural origin, and may without doubt be considered as a product of the Dorian art of Gela."

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*Primitive Athens as Described by Thucydides.* By JANE E. HARRISON. Cambridge University Press, 1906. Pp. xii + 168. 6s.

The task of depicting the Athens of the Persian wars is by no means an easy one. There is, to be sure, a foundation of fact to build upon, but the difficulties which crop up on all sides might discourage any investigator. This is the problem with which Miss Harrison deals in her *Primitive Athens*. After a brief introduction she discusses the Pelasgicon, the sanctuaries within and without the Acropolis, and finally the Enneacrounus, all of them subjects of the liveliest